GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:953
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2016
Use of Toxic Formalin to Preserve Fish
Rajesh Shri M. B.

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that toxic formalin is being widely used in the country to preserve fish and if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether the Government will consider taking strict action against this and ban the use of formalin; and
(c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

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(a) to (c): Formalin is not permitted as a preservative in food products. Cases of use of formalin to preserve fish have come to the notice of FSSAI. The implementation and enforcement of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 primarily rests with the State/ UT Governments. Commissioners of Food Safety throughout the country have been repeatedly urged to take up strict enforcement on such practices.